

4-21-2024 Sunday Sermon Message
Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16
The Text: Luke 16:19-31

Title: **Why God of love made hell?**

Many people today are wondering, "How could God of love make hell and send millions of people there?" I see them believing that there is no hell. Also, Adventists and Jehovah's Witnesses, who claim to believe in the Bible, claim that hell is a grave and that when man dies, he is in his sleep in the grave and perishes. However, in the Bible translations they use, the word hell has been removed in many places.

However, it is only through the words of Jesus Christ, who is God, that we can know whether there is hell or not, and why God made hell. In today's text, Jesus is not talking about any parables, but about what actually happened.

There was a certain rich man. But Jesus did not say his name. Another was a beggar, and his name was Lazarus. In God's word, those who have names and those who do not appear to be the standard for separating those who have received life from those who have not.

Both died. But Lazarus the beggar was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom. But the rich man was tormented in hell. He shouted at Lazarus across from him. "**Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.**"

The two of them were dead, and their bodies were already rotting in the grave, but Lazarus was in Abraham's bosom, and the rich man cried out in agony in the flames of hell.

When God created man, He formed his body from the dust and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and he became a living soul. Here

we see that two living souls, one in the bosom of Abraham and the other in the flames of hell.

The fact that the rich man cried out to Abraham shows that the soul of the dead is another soul-like body with all its members, such as eyes, tongue, mouth, and hands, just like the body before death. We can also see that where they are is in the underworld.

The Bible says that Hell is beneath the earth:

"The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath."(Prov. 15:24)

When the rich man realizes that he cannot escape hell, he asks Abraham to send Lazarus to his five brothers so that they will not come to hell, but Abraham tells them that they will not believe even if the dead are raised and speak.

In addition to Jesus' words, there are many other testimonies about Hell in the Old and New Testaments:

"For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest hell, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains."(Deuteronomy 32:22)

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."(Psalm 9:17)

"If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there."(Psalm 139:8)

"Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it."(Isaiah 5:14)

" Yet thou(Lucifer, the devil) shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. "(Isaiah 14:15)

" I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit: and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted in the nether parts of the earth."(Ezekiel 31:16)

"And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."(Matthew 5:29)

" And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."(Matthew 5:30)

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."Matthew 10:28)

" Where (Hell) their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.⁴⁹ For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt."(Mark 9:48-49)

" For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment." (2 Peter 2:4).

" And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into

the lake of fire. This is the second death."Revelation 20:13-14)

Jesus Himself told us why He made hell:
"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:."(Matthew 25:41)

God is saying that He did not make hell for people, but for the devil and the angels who follow him. God does not want a single person to suffer in hell.

The devil was the first to sin against God in heaven. Therefore, the purpose of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, when He appeared in the world as a man, was to destroy the devil who came to the Garden of Eden after tempted the first man to sin, by throwing him into hell:

"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."(1 John 3:8)

However, God redeemed all sins by pouring out water and blood on the cross to pay the penalty for the sins of all those who are living in sin, death, and curse because of the sin of the first man, Adam. That is why Jesus Himself said that whoever believes this gospel and receives Him will not go to hell and perish, but will have everlasting life:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."(John 3:16) Amen! Hallelujah!